

R E M A R K S

Claims 1, 6-12 and 17-22 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 11, 12 and 22 amended herein. No new matter is added by these amendments. The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 6-11 and 17-22 contain allowable subject matter or are allowed. In the office action claim 12 has been objected to for including the word "divided LSRs." As suggested by the Examiner, this claim has been amended to recite "defined LSRs." Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Claims 1, 11, 12, and 22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as indefinite. In response, claims 1 and 12 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner to recite "one of the plurality of logically defined LSRs terminating the LSP." Claims 11 and 22 have been amended to correct the antecedent basis issue regarding the term "MPLS-to-IP" in lines 4-5. Based on the foregoing amendments, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Applicants Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) as shown in Fig. 3.

In the rejection, it is alleged that Fig. 3 shows each and every element of the rejected claims and specifically that in Fig. 3 the adapters incorporate a "forwarder" as recited in the claim. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended to recite "wherein the LSRs are actually logically defined in a plurality of adapters." It is respectfully submitted that Fig. 3 does not show such a feature of the adapters or of the device shown in Fig. 3. Accordingly, as amended independent claims 1 and 12 patentably distinguish over the relied upon portions of the AAPA and are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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